

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 102988
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSPOST
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFLE,JR.
AF:TWSEELYE
S/S-MR. SEBASTIAN

-----052257Z 027560 /15

O P 052245Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 102988

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, US, SO

SUBJECT:US-SOMALI RELATIONS

REF: MOGADISCIO 729 (NOTAL)

1. UPON HIS RETURN TO MOGADISCIO APRIL 21, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT SIAD TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPROVED US-SOMALI RELATIONS. OFFICIAL CLOSE TO PRESIDENT ASSURED LOUGHRAN HE WOULD SEE SIAD BEFORE LEAVING MAY 5 FOR ABIDJAN COM CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, DIRGEN MOFA, WHO MAY BE ANXIOUS RETAIN SOMALIA'S LINKS WITH SOVIETS, AND WHO HAD INKLING OF NATURE OF BUSINESS LOUGHRAN WISHED TO DISCUSS, TOLD
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LOUGHRAN HE DOUBTED SIAD WOULD BE ABLE SEE HIM BEFORE HIS MAY 5 DEPARTURE. REFTTEL REPORTS LOUGHRAN HAD IN FACT NOT SEEN SIAD AS OF TWO HOURS BEFORE DEPARTURE.

2. WE THINK MEETING WITH SIAD IS ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO PROCEED ON COURSE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE OUR RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA. THEREFORE ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD INFORM

APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF FOREGOING AND SEEK THEIR INTERPRETATION OF SIAD'S FAILURE RECEIVE OUR AMBASSADOR. YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT PARALLEL MEETING BETWEEN SOMALI

AMBASSADOR ADDOU IN WASHINGTON WITH SECRETARY VANCE TOOK PLACE MAY 3 DURING WHICH SECRETARY OFFERED SEND AID TEAM TO MOGADISCIO TO STUDY WAYS US COULD RESPOND TO SOMALI DESIRE FOR US ECONOMIC AID BUT RESERVED POSITION ON US MILITARY AID TO SOMALIA PENDING COMPLETION ARMS TRANSFER POLICY REVIEW.

3. FYI: SIAD'S FAILURE RECEIVE LOUGHRAN MAY SIMPLY BE DEMONSTRATION THAT SIAD IS SHREWD CAMEL DEALER, OR THAT HE APPLYING PRESSURE TO SECURE APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT FOR ADDOU (APPOINTMENT WITH VICE PRESIDENT BEING REQUESTED). HOWEVER, WE HAVE TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY THAT FAILURE TO RECEIVE LOUGHRAN RESULTED FROM PRESSURE ON SIAD BY SOVIETS. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE102988
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RSPOST
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770158-0586
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770588/aaaacyew.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5d48a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 MOGADISCIO 729
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2623959
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-SOMALI RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, US, SO
To: JIDDA CAIRO MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e5d48a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009